

which I think it probable they were right. The Chancellor has really *assumed* a great deal in deciding my cause against me. Please obtain a copy of the decretal order—not of his opinion, for I suppose that would take you a week to copy—and send by some person at your convenience.

Upon what ground did he admit you—as of right, or *ex gratia*? I am glad that he has done it, and hope you may find it the harbinger of good fortune.

What think you of the New Insolvent Law? Do you intend to proceed under it? Or have you not philosophy enough to live poor all your life, with a millstone on your neck?

How does the business get along, and what is the state, generally, of your ejectment suits? Are any of them to be tried at these Circuits or not? I sometimes wished after my removal, that I could take a peep for a moment in the Registers, and engage again in the service of the Sovereign People—and so long had I been accustomed to the management of the Attorney General [M. Van Buren]'s affairs, public, private and domestic, that I often thought that no one could attend to them but myself. *My new avocations, however, have now become familiar and pleasant*, and I can attend to them without troubling myself about the bonds, mortgages, or ejectments of the State. * * * * * There is but little law business doing here, if I was *dependant* on that, I should have had the horrors long ago. * * *

B. F. BUTLER.

The same to the same.

Washington and Warren Bank, }
SANDY HILL, May 8th, 1819. }

Jesse Hoyt, Esq., Albany,

DEAR SIR,

I send by Mr. Skinner a package and letter for Mr. Barker, which send as usual. I hear that he has had a *demonstration* (as Packenham, & Co. would have said), made upon him this week, which was manfully repelled. My Secretary being otherwise engaged, deprives you of the *pleasure* of receiving this *interesting* epistle, in her "own proper hand writing."

Yours truly,

B. F. BUTLER.

Mr. President Butler to Mr. Jesse Hoyt, Solicitor in Chancery, Albany,
SANDY HILL, June 5th, 1819.

DEAR SIR,

I have yours of the 31st ult., 1st inst., and also one by Mr. Gifford. I shall endeavor as soon as possible to send you some papers in these Chancery causes. I do regret that I did not know that Mr. V. B. was about attending the June term of the Court of Chancery. I might have had all my business in train for it. * * *

* * * I have not been in court but little, either Common Pleas, or Circuit—having had a great deal to do in the Bank, and in my Law Business. I want a clerk very much, and as soon as Charles' * * * * * I hope you got my package by Hitchcock. I have now \$3000 in current notes, received since Wednesday, which I would send by Col. Pitcher, *who conveys this*, but he starts from here on foot, and goes on a raft from Fort Miller, and though an honest man might be robbed or knocked overboard. * * * * *

*I am unable to say anything now ABOUT THE NIAGARA BANK—only that if Mr. B., [meaning Jacob Barker], could be sure of life, he could make it a profitable concern—but has, in my opinion, irons enough in the fire, already, for one man. But then he's A HOST himself. If he gets the stock, you must stand ready to interpose a claim for the management of the business—that is—if you would be willing to accept such a place. He would require some one that he could repose confidence in to take charge of it. Though I have no idea that he will get it. "Double, double—toil and trouble," appears to be the order of the day in the Commercial and Financial world—where it will land us I am unable to say. * * * * **
The Attorney General [Mr. Van Buren], is *never* at home—and when he is, I am